

Monday, November 6, 1944



AMERICAN RED CROSS

Doloris, Sweetheart;

This is my second Monday morning here in New Guinea and it really is blue Monday. We have had a slight sprinkling of rain already and the sky is quite overcast. It will probably rain quite hard before noontime. Most of the fellows in my tent are on guard today. Guard here is a 24 hour job and I guess it's quite tiring. They walk two hours and are off four.

Last night I saw the picture ~~Double~~ "Indemnity" which I believe you told me you saw in Lansing and didn't care for. I share your views. It was not a particularly good picture and I hope it didn't give you any ideas. Ammm!!! So that's the type of picture you go to see, eh? I'm rather leery of your intentions now after your viewing that picture. I'll take a chance though and how I will - and will marry you despite that fact.

I just got another letter from you. Number 25. I ~~now~~ have now received Nos. 16, 19, 20, & 25. Where the others are I don't know but I'm very anxious for him to reveal their whereabouts so I can get them. This last letter got here in ten days which is very good time. I hope my letters are reaching you regularly now Sweetheart.

444
You can write on both sides of your stationery
you know Sweetheart because it is not censored
coming over here. I am writing on both sides of this
to conserve stationery. I think that I'll be able to
keep all censorable material out of it so it won't have
to be cut up.

Just what kind of hands is described when you
say that you put your hair upon curlers? Let me in
on it will you Darling so I can pass judgement on
it. What is it like you should never use such broad
and all inclusive terms when describing anything
like that. We poor males just can't grasp what you
mean. We need a much more detailed description.
It must be rather drastic if Mussie didn't recognize
you though.

Now you're referring to Bureaus of Social
Aid as awful places. I won't dispute that fact with
you because I've never seen one, but at least if you
do ever go to work in one there'll be the consolation that
it will not be for long because when I get back and
finish school you'll have your hands full - but not
quite full enough that we can't enjoy ourselves every
minute we're together. You'd probably have your hands
full, even if you didn't work, if I were around you.
Yes, I'm sure of it, but I don't think you'd mind
at all. I know I wouldn't.



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Bob Kennedy's address is:

Sgt Robert C. Kennedy

Cas. Co. # 48

A.P.O. # 11063 9/6 PM

San Francisco, Cal.

Mac's and John's I don't know but if you sent them to the following addresses they'd get them all right.

Pfc. David MacIntyre 37412472

163rd PWP Co.

H. Custer, Michigan

Pfc John Maynard

164th PWP Co.

H. Custer, Michigan

All I do is think of all the wonderful times we had together Darling, and thinking back on them makes me so damned homesick that it really is bad. I do have so very much to go back home to and all of it is you. I do love so much to just have my arms around you with your head on my shoulder. Don't ever worry about my ever being out of your sight because just as soon as I get back I want to be in your sight at all times just as much as you want me to be. Love You Sweetheart, Tremendously.

Whew!! I am indeed lucky. I just got letter number 24 tonight. Two letters in one day. That is the best thing that could happen except to receive more, or the best thing that could ever happen, to look up and see you right before me.

I now have a new job. I told you that my experience as a carpenter's helper would stand me in good stead. My new job is as a carpenter in the square area. A couple of other fellows and I are making long tables for each tent. Regular boudoir tables. It isn't a bad job and is much better than the tedium of drilling and hiking which I did back in the States till I drilled in my sleep. I'll be quite a useful fellow to have around when you need a handy man. I'll be able to make anything out of anything.

Tuesday, November 7, 1944

Dearest Dolores;

Today I am extremely exhausted. The job of which I spoke in the above paragraph pleased out today and I was out with the troops doing my calisthenics, drilling, listening to lectures and even going on a hike. The hikes here aren't very long but that damned sun beats down mercilessly all the while and really beats the devil out of us. I have the most overwhelming thirst all the time. I imagine I must easily consume four quarts of water daily and probably quite a bit more some days. I just drink it and then let it pour off me. ~~Every~~

Every night Redmon and I dress formally to go to the Red Cross. It seems rather foolish but



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still it bolsters my morale to feel dressed up occasionally. I wear my fatigues hat with the sun tan, remember the rainy weather hat I wore at M.S.C. It is rather dilapidated though and has been poked full of holes. I still wear it though because I don't care for the caps they give now. I take quite a kidding about it but just feel that they can "shoot if they must, this old grey head, but touch not a thread of my hat" (from the old English ballad of the same name).

Redmon, Herwig and I took showers this afternoon. We had a regular assembly line rigged up. Herwig pulled water out of the well to fill two five gallon buckets, I carried the buckets to the shower and handed them up to Redmon who poured into the barrel. We filled a large 55 gallon drum and had a wonderful time using all the water we wanted. Just like home only without you to scrub my back.

I don't remember whether I told you about the scare Herwig gave one of our boys. This fellow Herwig is a huge boy and used to be a prize fighter which fact is attested to by the battered and torn condition of his face. All his upper teeth but one have been knocked out and he has a plate to replace

them. Farmer, the victim, was asleep so Herwig decided to have some fun. He ruffled his own hair, took out his teeth and took off his shirt. He then put on an expression which outdid Frankenstein's monster ten different ways for being gruesome and then tapped Farmer to wake him. Farmer awoke to see this horrible apparition about six inches from his face. He just screamed and was out of that bed faster than I've ever seen anyone move. I think he was robbed of at least ten years growth.

We were all issued some candles yesterday, two of them. That was like manna from heaven because illumination is quite a problem here. Candles are made ~~from~~ from anything including shoe polish, which incidentally makes a very good candle and gives plenty of light. When the candle burns down completely I'll put the wax in a can and put in a floating wick. Every thing must do its maximum duty around here. No one ever throws anything away. We're like rats hoarding everything we find, nails, tin cans, tin foil, any bits of metal or wood we find, in fact anything at all then our ingenuity - such as it is - is put to work to find some way of utilizing the stuff we have found. It comes to be a habit and we always pick up everything we see.



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I was going to the show tonight till I found out that it was Olsen and Johnson in "Ghost Catchers". They are not very good in movies. On the stage they may be O.K. but the movies aren't suited to their brand of humor.

The picture I present as I sit here writing to you by candlelight must not be too much unlike the illustrations you see of cavaliers of old at their desks penning messages to the lady loves. All I need is a quill and a sand box to complete the picture. Who ever thought I'd be found in circumstances such as these. I never even dreamed it a little over two years ago. I always have the consolation of knowing that, without having gotten into the Army I would never have met you and that anything I ever have to go through ~~for~~ will be a cheap price to pay for having met you and been loved by you. That is something I really mean sweetheart, although I will admit that this present separation is much more painful than I care to have it. I want to be with you again as soon as possible to hear you tell me once more that you love me and to feel your lips once more as I kiss you. Then life

would be complete. I'm sure I have told you before
that I love you but I don't believe I have told
you so anywhere near the number of times I want
to. I want you to remember Darling that all the
time I'm away from you you're constantly on
my mind and that I love you and always will
with all my heart and soul. Take very good
care of yourself Honey. I'll leave you now sending
you

All My Love and Kisses
Freddie

A small grasshopper just landed on my hand
from out of the night somewhere. The darned thing
was only about 3/8 of an inch long but was a perfectly
shaped little thing. He jumped off me to the candle
but I guess he found that too hot for him because
he leaped off that back into the night and was
gone as fast as he came.

I'll enclose this portrait which I have.
Of course without the mustache I look different
but you can just imagine the mustache on.